

PRO-GERMAN INTERESTS TRYING TO PREVENT ALLIES' WAR LOAN

TROOPS PREVENT MEXICAN ATTACK ON BORDER TOWN

Bandits Afraid of Soldier Patrols Sent to Protect Citizens.

EXPECT TROUBLE TODAY

Fear Outbreaks at the Celebration of National Holiday.

(By Associated Press.)
SAN BENITO, Texas, Sept. 15.—Heavy cavalry and infantry patrols, which were rushed to this city during the night, kept off a threatened attack by Mexican bandits. Evidence of a plot to terrorize the city were strengthened by reports to the army patrols during the night of activities of Mexicans outside of the town.

Just before dawn the commanding officer here suspected the time was due for the attack. Infantry details were sent out along the road for some distance from the town. No hostile Mexicans appeared. Soon after sunrise, San Benito resumed its normal aspect and residents who had come into town for the night started back to the country to resume work.

SAN BENITO, Texas, Sept. 15.—Mexicans here have told citizens about an organization of revolutionists which planned to make a demonstration at some other place to draw the troops away from San Benito and then fire into the town. For that reason San Benito will be closely guarded for several days.

Army patrols here in the immediate neighborhood number three companies of infantry and two troops of cavalry. Threats have also been made against the town of Mercedes, about 20 miles from here.

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Sept. 15.—Two companies of infantry were hurried out of Brownsville last night for San Benito and Lyford, north of here, on reports that there was danger from Mexican bandits near those places.

With six Mexicans found dead, five of them shot and one floating in the Rio Grande, extensive preparation were made to prevent reprisals or outbreaks during a two-day celebration of the Mexican national holiday.

This celebration began according to Mexican custom. One suspicious movement of armed men carrying red flags on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande was observed.

LAREDO, Texas, Sept. 15.—Mexicans hidden in the rushes on the Mexican side last night fired about 50 shots into the little town of Simon, 20 miles up the river from Laredo and residents deserted the town. Workmen at irrigation pumping plants fled and a hurry call was sent for troops. Cavalry from Delores was rushed to the scene, but no further shots were fired. All cavalry stationed at Fort McIntosh was ordered to patrol the border in every direction today.

CANDIDATES ADVISED TO DO THEIR UTMOST DURING COMING DAYS

Candidates in the West Virginian Shower of Gold Contest should do their best this week during the Competitive Period. They should see all persons who have promised their subscription "later on." Show them the vote schedule until the end of the contest. Tell them what their subscription will do in this week as against what it will do in the last week of the contest. Candidates should recall the story of the tortoise and the hare and remember that a steady persistency is a most essential quality in the makeup of a successful candidate as well as in other lines of endeavor. Anyone who gets discouraged and quits or thinks that they have a big enough lead to rest on their oars cannot possibly succeed.

The Hare and the Tortoise.
Do you remember the fable you were taught in school of the hare and the tortoise? These two agreed to run a race, and, naturally, all the bets were laid in favor of the nimble hare. Some decided the tortoise and told him practically that they liked his nerve in putting himself against the swifter creature. But the tortoise just kept on muttering to himself his favorite motto, "Slow but sure, slow but sure."

American Woman is Popular in Petrograd



MRS. PAUL BARTLETT.

Her husband was until recently a member of the American embassy in Petrograd, where she was very popular, but as Europe is no longer a pleasant place to visit, she is spending this summer among Chicago's swells at Lake Forest, Ill.

PRESIDENT TOLD NO HOPE FOR PEACE

Women Peace Advocates Lay Plan for Action Before Wilson.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—President Wilson was told today by Dr. Aletta H. Jacobs, of Amsterdam, Holland, that there is little prospect of European peace in the near future. Dr. Jacobs was one of the delegates to the women's peace conference held at the Hague several months ago and later discussed peace with high officials of various nations in Europe with Miss Jane Addams, of Chicago.

Dr. Jacobs talked with the President about the plan of the women peace advocates for united action for peace through the United States and other neutral nations. She said later she did not expect the President would take an definite step in this direction immediately.

WILL HOLD DANCE.
An informal dance will be held under the auspices of the Fairmont Alumni Association of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, at the Country Club, Friday evening, September 17th at seven o'clock. This is one of a number of like affairs held each year by the Association at which the attendance includes members of the fraternity from various points in the State, and from the chapter at the West Virginia University. About thirty-five are expected to be present.

PEOPLE'S FORUM.

Attention is called to an article under "The People's Forum" in today's issue, dealing with the decision of the Supreme Court in the charter case petition yesterday. It is worth reading. The article will be found on page 6.

GERMAN FORCE DRIVING SLAVS MEETS REVERSE

Counter Attacks by Russians Halt Advance in Courland District.

EXPECT FIGHT AT VILNA

Important Arguments Are Predicted Within Next Fortnight.

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, Sept. 15.—While Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's cavalry is astride the Petrograd railroad and the Germans have made large captures of prisoners and guns in Courland the Russians are again counteracting these efforts not only by checking attempts of the Austrians to resume the offensive in Galicia, but by inflicting another reverse on the Austro-German forces in this vicinity.

Sviatlansky, where German cavalry cut the railway in half, is between Vilna and Dvinsk and about 400 miles from Petrograd. The Russians assert this raid by the Germans has formed a dangerous salient in their line of which their opponents are likely to take advantage.

It is clear whatever strategic moves may be involved in this advance that recent incidents indicate the near approach of an important engagement in the Vilna region which was predicted a fortnight ago by General Polizanov, minister of war.

Further along the line German armies operating on both banks of the Niemen have not yet formed a junction and Russian rear guards are still withdrawing eastward.

Russian military writers are warning the people on to expect too great developments from the Galician offensive movement.

Discussion in the House of Commons today is to return from the absorbing topic of conscription to the voting of another huge war credit.

3,000,000 ENLIST IN BRITISH ARMY

This Number Has Joined Since War Began Says Premier Asquith.

LONDON, September 15.—Nearly 3,000,000 men have been enlisted for service with the British army forces since the beginning of the war, premier Asquith announced in the House of Commons today. German troops are pounding away at the Riga Dvinsk line according to today's official statement from Berlin which showed sharp fighting westward and southwest of Dvinsk. Russians have been counter attacking in the Vilna river district farther south where Vilna is at stake.

In the center the Teutonic forces are pressing on. Field Marshal von Mackensen continues his advance on Pinsk. On the southern end of the line, Russian attacks were repulsed with sanguinary losses it is declared.

There has been a lessening of the violence of the artillery engagements along the Franco-Belgian front. Fighting with bombs, hand grenades or mines in several sectors and some artillery engagements comprise activities reported in today's statement by the French war office.

To Charleston.
Mrs. Maude Johnston and daughter, Miss Norine, have gone to Charleston, where they will reside. Miss Johnston having accepted the position of first primary teacher in the Mercer school at Charleston, rated as one of the best schools in the state.

Miss Johnston had been an efficient teacher in the local school for three years and her work was of a high order. Her going to Charleston was regretted by her many friends in the city.

The Weather.

West Virginia—Probably fair to night and Tuesday; not much change in temperature.
Western Pennsylvania—Unsettled tonight; fair Thursday and lower temperature.

U.S. NOT CERTAIN SUBMARINE SANK LINER HESPERIAN

Germany Denies Responsibility in Note Handed to Gerard.

THINK VESSEL HIT MINE

No Submarine in the Neighborhood at the Time, Germans Say.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—State department officials commenting today on the disclaimer of the Berlin government that the Canadian liner Hesperian was torpedoed said that insufficient evidence had been received upon which to base representation to Germany at this time. From the facts at hand it was said no opinion could be formed as to whether the Hesperian was torpedoed or struck a mine. If it could be determined that the Hesperian struck a mine, officials say there would be no means of fixing the responsibility for placing the mine.

Diplomatic negotiations in the Arabic case were in apparent lull today, and Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, had returned to his summer embassy at Cedarhurst, L. I. to await word from his government regarding evidence in possession of the United States concerning the sinking of the vessel.

BERLIN, Sept. 15.—The Overseas News Agency says it is virtually certain that the steamship Hesperian was not sunk by a German submarine and adds: "If, as was said by a London newspaper, one member of the Hesperian crew pretends to have seen a German submarine, this means nothing, as the explosion occurred at about 8:54 p. m. when it was dark. Moreover it has been vindicated recently that when an explosion had been shown to have been due to a mine, several so-called eye witnesses pretended to have seen the periscope of a submarine."

BERLIN, Sept. 15.—The German Government, in a note from the Foreign Office to Ambassador Gerard, made a qualified disclaimer of responsibility for the sinking of the steamship Hesperian. On the face of the evidence thus far at hand the Government is satisfied that the Hesperian was not sunk by a German submarine.

The communication is a preliminary note, which may be supplemented when all the facts in connection with the Hesperian incident are established definitely.

The note says: "As we are informed from a competent source, the news already received, taken in connection with facts officially known, seems to exclude almost absolutely the possibility that a German submarine could under any circumstances have been concerned in sinking the British passenger steamer Hesperian."

Think Mine Responsible.
"Firstly, according to the prearranged distribution, no German submarine should have been on September 4, in that part of the ocean in which the Hesperian sank."

"Furthermore, the explosion, according to descriptions received from British sources, was of such a nature as to indicate from its effects that it was rather that of a mine of a torpedo."

Vondoz, who has been in Fairmont for a week or more, says that during the greater part of his life he has subsisted on a diet of snakes, which he ate alive for the entertainment of patrons of various carnival companies which have given him employment.

According to the information received by the police a young man was seen several days ago to take a nickel plated monkey wrench from an automobile standing in Fairmont avenue near Seventh street. The next day the same man is said to have taken a leather bound book containing tables of logarithms and valued at \$4 from the same automobile. Later he attempted to steal a \$25 camera from the car, but fled when he feared that

Alleged Thief Eats Snakes Carries Bible, Outruns Ford

he had been seen.

This forenoon the owner of the car laid a trap for the thief by placing a pocket book containing a small amount of money on the seat of the car and then hiding on a porch nearby. Vondoz is said to have taken the pocket book and started down the street. The owner of the car started in pursuit, but Vondoz would have escaped had not Chief Harr taken part in the chase.

Chief Harr recovered the stolen property, the book being found suspended by a cord underneath the Coal Run bridge.

"I placed it there for safe keeping," said Vondoz.

Vondoz said that the Bibles had been given him by men in Clarksburg at a religious meeting some time ago, and that he read them faithfully every day. He says that he is a Y. M. C. A. member and that he attends services regularly. He is also a faithful and consistent church member, he says. Vondoz is scheduled for a hearing before Mayor Anthony Bowen tomorrow forenoon.

Empress Besieged in Long Island Castle



MME. AUGUSTINE LEBAUDY

Her husband, one time French sugar king, afterward "Emperor of the Sahara," recently organized a force of messenger boys to lead them against Phoenix Lodge, his Long Island estate, where she and their daughter Jacqueline are facing starvation despite the fact that Lebaudy is many times a millionaire.

OPERATORS NAME RATE COMMITTEE

Members Will Confer With Roads and Protest Increase.

The proposed increase in the freight rate differential of from 25 cents to 40 cents in favor of Ohio and Indiana coal as against West Virginia coal to Chicago and other western cities was declared to be an unwarranted imposition on the West Virginia operators at the meeting yesterday afternoon of the Central West Virginia Coal Operators' Association in the assembly room of the Chamber of Commerce in Fairmont.

A committee was appointed which will confer with officials of the Baltimore & Ohio, the Norfolk & Western, the Coal & Coke and the Kanawha & Michigan roads for the purpose of showing that any effort on the part of these roads to secure from the Interstate Commerce Commission permission to increase the differential would be unfair to the West Virginia operators.

It is pointed out that according to a report in the Black Diamond that coal which will pass over a four inch screen will be boosted to \$1.50 per ton at the Hocking Valley mines. Hocking Valley is one of the strongest competitors with North Central West Virginia in the western market and notwithstanding the better grade of coal mined here the local product must be sold at a much lower price on account of the freight differential already existing in favor of the Ohio operators.

If this differential should be increased 15 cents a ton as proposed it is said that West Virginia would be forced out of the Western market and as a result the eastern market and the export trade would be glutted with disastrous reductions in prices.

BEFORE SANITY COMMISSION.

Michael Bobchak, the alleged wild man of Hout, who for the last two weeks has been frightening women and children, it is said, by appearing in unexpected places without clothing of any kind, was taken into custody today by Sheriff C. D. Conway and a hearing before the Marion county lunacy commission followed.

Benjamin S. Wilson, one of the witnesses for the state, declared that on a number of occasions Bobchak had been seen running naked through the bushes and that he had appeared at the Wilson home frightening Mrs. Wilson and her daughter.

On several occasions bloodhounds were employed unsuccessfully to trail the fugitive.

MAN 58 GOES TO COLLEGE.

CLARKSBURG, W. Va., Sept. 15.—After almost 50 years' interruption, James McDowell, aged 63 years, will return to Washington & Lee University in a few days to resume his studies and prepare for admission to the bar. He has been canvassing in order to secure funds with which to pay his expenses. McDowell was a student at Washington & Lee for three years, entering in 1870. General Robert E. Lee was president of the university at that time. When he completes his course McDowell says he will go to New York for Boston to hang out his shingle.

COUNTRY WIDE CAMPAIGN WAGED AGAINST FLOTATION; PROTEST SENT TO WILSON

Government Will Not Interfere With the Efforts of Anglo-French Commissioners

ACTIVITY OF OPPONENTS MOSTLY IN WEST

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, September 15.—The Anglo-French Financial Commission heard today that German agents, alarmed at the momentum gained in the last few days by a movement to lend Great Britain and France a billion dollars to be spent for supplies here, had instituted a country wide campaign against the flotation of the proposed credit.

Prominent Merchant is Caught With Booze

MORGANTOWN, Sept. 15.—W. N. Nussbaum, of Clarksburg, a merchant of that town, and his chauffeur, John Davidson, were arrested two miles from Pt. Marion just over the state line by constables and county officers and brought here. The two men in a large touring car had about \$75 worth of liquors consisting of 50 quarts of wine, 90 bottles of beer and other liquors in like amounts.

Arraigned before Justice S. A. Barker the men are charged with violating the state prohibition laws. All the goods were labeled correctly but the amount was so excessive as to cause arrests.

Arraigned before the Justice Nussbaum made affidavit he was worth \$50,000 and that he owned real estate in Clarksburg. He gave his personal bond and left his automobile here as surety for his appearance before the justice.

SOUTH CAROLINA FOR PROHIBITION

20,000 Majority for a Dry State Reported in Election.

(By Associated Press.)
COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 15.—Unofficial returns here early today from all 44 counties of South Carolina indicate a majority of nearly 20,000 for state wide prohibition in the referendum election held yesterday.

Although returns were not complete it was said all but the smaller and more remote precincts were in. So far the votes tabulated today showed 33,483 for prohibition and 14,341 for the present local option system under which 14 counties now operate liquor dispensaries. Should the official count show prohibition carried, the new law will become effective January 1 next.

It would prevent the sale of beers and wines as well as liquors and is said to be drawn as to leave but few loop holes.

MARYLAND HOLDS STATE PRIMARIES

Harrington and Weller Win the Nominations for Governor.

(By Associated Press.)
BALTIMORE, Md., Sept. 15.—State Comptroller Emerson C. Harrington decisively defeated U. S. Senator Blair Lee for the Democratic nomination for governor at the state primary yesterday.

Harrington carried 16 of the 23 counties and two of the four districts of Baltimore City, giving him a majority of at least 15 votes in the state convention, which is to be held to ratify the choice of the people.

Ovington E. Weller, chairman of the state roads commission, was the Republican choice for the gubernatorial nomination.

NOTICE, I. O. O. F.

All members of Marion Lodge No. 11, I. O. O. F., are requested to meet at the hall Thursday morning at 8 o'clock to attend the funeral of Bro. C. C. Conway.

E. M. TAYLOR, Secy.